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BOROUGH OF BIDEFORD

ANNUAL REPORT
ON
THE HEALTH OF BIDEFORD
VITAL STATISTICS,
SANITARY WORKS, &c.
FOR THE YEAR
1960



BY

C. J. CAREY, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (LOND).,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

A. E. T. NETTING, M.A.P.H.I., Chief Public Health Inspector

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Public Health Staff

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :
C. J. CAREY, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Lond.)
(Temporary Part-time)

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :

Inspector of Meats and Foods

Housing Officer

Petroleum Officer

A. E. T. NETTING, M.A.P.H.I.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

G. H. WHEELER, Cert. R.S.H.

To the Bideford Borough Council

Mr. Mayor and Councillors,

I have pleasure in presenting herewith my Annual Report for the year ended December 31st, 1960.

It will be seen from the statistics that the Health of the Borough remains good. The figures given compare very favourably with the previous year, and with those for the country in general. The Vital Statistics show a rise in the estimated population and a rise in the birth rate. Of the 156 deaths recorded, being 1 less than last year, 121 were over the age of 65 years, and the commonest cause of death was cardiac and allied diseases. The total number of people on the Tuberculosis Register was 128 giving a figure of 12.18 per 1,000 of the resident population. During the year, 25 visits were made to interview applicants for Council Houses, in order to assess Medical priority on certificates submitted by Local Practitioners.

I am pleased to state the district continues to hold its own as a Health Resort as will be seen from the General Statistics given in the several Tables.

I am,

Mr. Mayor and Councillors,

Yours faithfully,

C. JOHN CAREY.

Annual Report

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (Statute Acres)	4,068
Population (Census 1951)	10,200
Registrar-General's Estimate of Population, 1960	10,510
Number of Inhabited Houses	3,743
Rateable Value	£153,904
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£611

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births { Legitimate Males 80 Females 87	
{ Illegitimate Males 6 Females 1	174
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	16.56
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	4.02
Still-births { Legitimate Males 4 Females 4	
{ Illegitimate Males 2 Females 1	11
Still-births rate per 1,000 live and still-births	59.46
Total live and still-births	185
Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year)	6
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 total live births	34.48
" " " " " " " " —legitimate	23.95
" " " " " " " " —illegitimate	285.71
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live Births) (6 deaths)	34.48
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live Births) (5 deaths)	28.74
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still Births and Deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total Live and Still Births) (16 deaths)	86.49
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still-births	Nil
Deaths—Males 74 Females 82	156
Death rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	14.84
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	27
" " Measles (all ages)	Nil
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Comprehensive laboratory facilities are available through the District Pathologist at the North Devon Infirmary at Barnstaple. Full and rapid service is readily available.

The Blood Transfusion Service is centred at the District Laboratory and serves the whole North Devon Area.

Bacteriological examinations are carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Exeter.

AMBULANCES

The Ambulance Service is under the Control of the National Health Service. Modified Group Control is now in operation and all journeys in the North Devon area are co-ordinated through the Barnstaple Ambulance Station. Two motor ambulances are stationed in Bideford for the transport of non-infectious cases. The Isolation Hospital maintains an ambulance which is reserved specially for cases using that Hospital.

NURSING ARRANGEMENTS FOR BIDEFORD AREA

The Home Nursing Service is carried out by three District Nurses who combine general nursing with midwifery duties. Their work is of a high standard and there is full co-operation with General Practitioners of the area. Their work in the area does much to relieve the pressure on the Hospital Services.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

A Chest Clinic is established at the North Devon Infirmary at Barnstaple. The treatment of Tuberculous patients is conducted by the Chest Physician at the Chest Centre, North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple. A Comprehensive follow-up scheme for all patients and contacts is directed by him at Barnstaple and Bideford Hospital. Hawley and Hawkmoor Sanatoria serve the area for patients requiring hospitalisation.

A Special Treatment Centre for the treatment of Venereal Disease is at the North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple.

HOSPITALS

The Bideford area is provided for by the Bideford and District Hospital. The Hospital is for Medical and Surgical cases and maintains 52 beds. It is a S.E.A.N. Training School. Specialist Services are available at clinics held in the Hospital. The Consultants direct the treatment of

cases admitted as Inpatients. The Isolation Hospital, now called the Kingsley Hospital, situated East-the-Water, provides for infectious cases from the whole of the North Devon Area. This Hospital is well situated for the admission and treatment of any infectious cases arising in the Bideford area, requiring Hospital Care. The Torridge Hospital situated in Meddon Street, provides Hospital care for the chronic sick. It provides for geriatric and chronic medical patients and is very well equipped with modern appliances. At the moment it provides 70 beds, the rest of the building being under reconstruction and modernisation. When completed it is hoped to increase the number of beds to 104.

ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CARE

Ante-natal and post-natal clinics are conducted by each General Practitioner in the area, in co-operation with the Midwives. Specialist facilities are available at Barnstaple.

BLIND PERSONS

The number of registered blind persons in the Bideford Borough is 20. Causes of disability: Cataract, 6; Glaucoma, 2; Optic Atrophy, 0; and other causes, 12.

There were no cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum notified during 1960.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND THEIR CONTROL

The following cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year :—

Measles	..	..	..	..	..	1
Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	7
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	11
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	2
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	1

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Vaccination against Smallpox and immunisation against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough are carried out by the General Practitioners of the area, and also at the Welfare Centres and School Clinics.

Poliomyelitis vaccination is carried out under the Devon County Council Scheme.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE

Adoptive Public General Acts

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 ..	15th June, 1893
Private Street Works Act, 1892	
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907— Parts 2 (except Sec. 29). Parts 3, 4 and 6 Parts 7 (except Secs. 82, 84, 85, and 86) Parts 8, 9 and Part 10 (except Sec. 94)	April, 1909
Public Health Act, 1925, Part 2 (except sections 21 and 22)	1st January, 1926

BYELAWS

With respect to Markets	16th February, 1882
With respect to the Driving of Cattle	5th March, 1888
With respect to the Obstruction of Foot- passengers	8th August, 1892
For the navigation of the River Torridge within the Harbour of Bideford	4th July, 1894
With respect to the Lighting of Vehicles ..	11th November, 1899
With respect to the disturbance of persons assembled in public buildings, shooting- galleries, round-about, etc., street music and bad language	25th June, 1900
Prohibiting Spitting in Public Places	31st January, 1911
With respect to the Victoria Park Pleasure- Ground	18th January, 1913
With respect to New Streets	10th July, 1928
With respect to the Management of the Public Cemetery (Repealed in Part)	18th August, 1930 and 12th June, 1947
Regulating the use of Motor Boats within the Harbour	17th August, 1931
Relating to Violent Behaviour on Elementary School Premises	1st April, 1951
For the Regulation of Advertisements ..	3rd December, 1939

With respect to the Decent Conduct of Persons using Public Sanitary Conveniences	1st April, 1937
With respect to :—	
(1) Nuisance contrary to Public Decency ..	
(2) Deposit of litter to the Detriment of Public Amenities	
(3) Wireless, Loudspeakers, Gramophones, etc.	1st February, 1937
For securing the observance of Sanitary and Cleanly Conditions and Practices in connec- tion with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food	15th November, 1950
With respect to the supply of water	1st April, 1951
Sale of Contraceptives in Slot Machines ..	18th January, 1950
Prohibiting cycling on certain footpaths ..	1st April, 1951
With respect to Victoria Park	1st February, 1953
With respect to the Fouling of Footpaths by Dogs	15th June, 1953
With respect to Library, Reading Room and Museum	18th September, 1953
With respect to Cycling on the Riverbank ..	9th November, 1953
With respect to Building Byelaws	31st December, 1953
For the prevention and suppression of nuisances with respect to : 1, Loading of Vehicles ; 2, Deposit of Mud on Highways ; 3, Noisy Animals ; 4, Preservation of Road Margins laid out for Ornamental Purposes	1st July, 1957

TABLE
NOTIFIABLE

Disease	Total Cases Notified												
	Under 1 year	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65 and over	Total
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	1	4	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

I

DISEASES

Total Deaths								
Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and over	Total
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	4
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE II
VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1960 AND PREVIOUS 5 YEARS

Years	Estimated population for Year	Births		Nett Deaths belonging to the District		Nett Deaths belonging to the District			
		Nett				Under 1 year of age		At all Ages	
		Number	Rate per 1000	Number	Rate per 1000 population	Number	Rate per 1000 births	Number	Rate per 1000 population
1955	10220	136	13.31	140	13.70	1	7.35	140	13.70
1956	10200	141	13.82	168	16.47	2	14.18	168	16.47
1957	10210	174	17.04	139	13.61	2	11.49	139	13.61
1958	10340	146	14.12	138	13.35	4	27.40	138	13.35
1959	10460	156	14.91	157	15.01	5	32.05	157	15.01
1960	10510	174	16.56	156	14.84	6	34.48	156	14.84

TABLE III
CAUSES OF AND AGES AT

	Nett deaths at the subjoined ages of									
	All Ages		Under 1 year		1 and under 2 years		2 and under 5 years		5 and under 15 years	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus....	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	9	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leukaemia, aleukemia	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Vascular lesions of nervous system	12	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Coronary disease, angina	11	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hypertension with heart disease	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other heart disease	13	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Circulatory disease	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Bronchitis	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other diseases of respiratory system	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	8	5	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	1
Motor vehicle accidents	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
All other accidents	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	74	82	3	3	—	—	—	1	—	2

DEATH DURING 1960

'Residents' whether occurring within or without the District

15 and under 25 years		25 and under 35 years		35 and under 45 years		45 and under 55 years		55 and under 65 years		65 and under 75 years		75 and under 85 years		85 and under 95 years		95 and over	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	2	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	3	3	3	3	1	—	—	1
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	1	1	1	4	10	4	1	—	—
—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	—	3	3	2	8	1	2	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	8	6	2	14	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
—	—	—	1	2	2	2	2	14	3	20	17	23	30	10	19	—	2

TABLE IV
OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

Notified	Cases		Vision not Impaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
	At home	Treated				
		In hospital				
NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

TABLE V
TUBERCULOSIS

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-15 "	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-25 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35 "	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45 "	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-55 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals...	6	1	—	—	1	—	—	—

TABLE VI
INFANT MORTALITY

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year

Causes of Death	Under 1 week	1 to 2 weeks	2 to 3 weeks	3 to 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 to 6 months	6 to 9 months	9 to 12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	5	1	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	6
Totals	5	1	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	6

Annual Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector

TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE
BIDEFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

Mr. Mayor and Councillors,

I have pleasure in submitting my Tenth Annual Report on the sanitary administration of the area.

Work of construction on the new modern cattle market in Hansen's Field was pushed on during the year and on completion was opened by His Worship the Mayor (Mr. R. Lake) on September 27th, 1960. It is hoped this will be a great asset to the town and during the short period to the end of the year there seemed to be promise of a good thriving market.

There remains now for the abattoir to be brought up to modern standards. Proposals for further improvement were discussed with the North Devon Meat Marketing Society Ltd. and their architects and plans for a new building to deal with the lairage and slaughter of pigs and sheep were presented and approved. When completed the building will enable the slaughter of increased numbers of pigs and sheep under modern hygienic conditions and also permit of additional necessary improvements, especially in the provision of more hanging space, being carried out in the existing slaughterhouse buildings for the handling of cattle. This work should be completed by the 1st July, 1961 as this is the date recommended as the Appointed Day when all the requirements of the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations 1958 and the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations 1958 will become applicable to existing slaughterhouses in this area. The number of animals slaughtered remained high during the year, necessitating the continuance of full time inspection duties with some evening and Sunday work.

Housing

1. Progress in this field of activity was exceeding slow indeed.

The Clearance Order in connection with Torridge Street was confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government on the 13th January, 1960 but re-housing of tenants did not commence until July. At the end of this year six families out of the nineteen still remained to be housed. This difficulty arose out of the difficulty in securing the completion of new houses and emphasizes the need for a continuous building programme to ensure smooth running of the Council's Clearance Proposals. The survey of three other areas consisting of some 53 houses was still continuing. One individual house was closed and one was made the subject of an undertaking.

2. Improvement Grants.

The number of applications of both types dealt with during the year doubled those of the previous year. Of 24 applications for Standard Grant 5 were refused and 7 were not proceeded with for one reason or another. The remaining 12 covered works attracting a maximum total grant of £1,580, of which sum amounts paid as grant by the end of the year for works completed amounted to £479-13-2 (maximum possible was £695).

In respect of Discretionary Grants 9 applications were dealt with and 8 with a total approved expenses of £2,740-4-9 were agreed.

This is a gratifying improvement and reflects the growing interest of house owners in bringing their properties to modern standards of amenity and, since in many cases much repair work is concurrently undertaken, putting the houses into good condition.

3. Rent Act 1957.

No action has arisen under this Act during the period under review. I am sure this does not reflect a situation where there are no houses eligible for a Certificate of Disrepair. I rather think that the public are either in fear of using the measure or are too complacent to bother.

4. Houses completed and occupied during the year were :—

(a) By the Borough Council	9
(b) By Private Enterprise	16
	<hr/>
Total	25
	<hr/>

Applicants on housing list at end of 1959	58
Applicants added to list during 1960	76
	<hr/>
Total	134
	<hr/>

Housed by transfers and new tenancies in existing premises during the year	55
Removed from the list for failure to reply to questionnaire issued in June	18
	<hr/>
	73
	<hr/>
Number on list at end of year	61

The applications received during the year included those from 6 key workers of the new factory in the town all of whom were satisfactorily housed. 18 others were received from residents in houses included in Torridge Street Clearance Area and 11 of these were housed.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND INFECTION

The following cases of Infectious Diseases have been notified during the year :—

Measles	1
Tuberculosis	7
Scarlet Fever	11
Pneumonia	2
Whooping Cough	1

DETAILS OF INSPECTIONS

Dwellings inspected under Public Health Acts	85
Revisits made under Public Health Acts	147
Miscellaneous under Public Health Acts	126
Dwellings inspected under Housing Acts	29
Revisits made under Housing Acts	24
Miscellaneous under Housing Acts	19
Housing Acts (Improvement Grant)	23
Housing Act (Improvement Grant) Revisits	53
Standard Grants	19
Standard Grants—Revisits	36
Council Houses (including investigation of Council House application)	88
Meat Inspections	672
Inspection of Food and Food Premises	31
Inspection of Food and Food Premises—Revisits	8
Inspection of Ice Cream Premises	3
Inspection of Ice Cream Premises—Revisits	1
Samples of Ice Cream taken	5
Inspection of Pannier Market and Butchers Row	18
Food Hygiene Regulations	8
Factories Act	7
Factories Act—Revisits	3
Inspection made under Fire Escapes in Case of Fire	2
Shops Act	1
Shops Act—Revisits	1
Pet Shop	2
Milk and Dairies Act	3
Milk and Dairies Act—Revisit	1
Milk Samples taken	2
Water Samples taken (Bacteriological)	40
Petroleum	13
Petroleum—Revisits	12
Infectious Diseases	9
Infectious Diseases—Revisits	5
Insect Pests	2
Insect Pests—Revisits	5
Refuse Tip	3
Drainage	111
Drainage—Revisits	33
Mortuary	3
Accumulation	1
Rag and Bone Stores	2
Rodent Control	27
Rodent Control—Revisits	12
Caravan	1
Dustbins	16
Number of Preliminary Notices served	97
Number of Preliminary Notices completed	101
Number of Statutory Notices served under Public Health Act	1
Number of Statutory Notices completed under Public Health Act	1
Number of Notices served under Food Hygiene Regulations 1955/56	1
Number of Notices completed under Food Hygiene Regulations 1955/56	1
Number of Notices served under Factories Act	5
Number of Notices completed under Factories Act	4
Number of Houses demolished	—
Number of Houses demolished voluntarily by Owners	2

The Chief defects that have been dealt with are :—

Roofs repaired	100
Defective Floors repaired or renewed	17
Defective Doors, Locks, etc. repaired or renewed	162
Defective Windows and Sashcords repaired or renewed	110
Defective Stairs repaired or renewed	2
New Handrails fixed	3
Defective Skirting Boards repaired or renewed	15
Broken Glass replaced....	15
New Draining Boards supplied	16
Interior Plaster repaired	37
Exterior Plaster repaired	42
Defective Ceilings repaired or renewed	14
New W.C.s provided	11
Defective W.Cs. Flushing Cisterns, Overflows and Seats repaired or renewed	142
Defective Eaves Gutters, Vent Pipes and Down Pipes repaired or renewed	25
New Drains laid	4
Choked Drains cleared	42
Defective Drains repaired	11
New Manholes provided	8
New Sinks or Washbasins provided	9
Defective Sinks or Washbasins repaired or renewed	12
Defective Cookers, Firegrates or Stoves repaired or renewed	138
Defective Electric Fridges, Washboilers, Points and Switches repaired or renewed	70
Defective Gas Boilers or Geysers repaired or renewed	77
Defective Water Supply, Water Tanks, Taps and Pipes repaired or renewed	66
Defective Waste Pipes repaired or renewed	20
New Bathrooms provided	9
New Hot Water Systems installed	11
New Foodstores provided	7
Rising Dampness remedied	8
Whole Houses re-decorated	4
Rooms re-decorated	9
Accumulation cleared	1
Nuisance abated	15
Miscellaneous items including Yards, Footpaths, Fences, etc.	175

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Part I of the Act

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to Health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	16	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	76	6	5	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	6	1	1	—
	93	7	6	—

2. Defects Found.

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)	M/c line No. (8)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	4
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	6	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :—						
(a) Insufficient	9	1	3	Nil	2	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	1	1	Nil	1	10
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	12
Total		2	4	Nil	3	Nil

Part II of the Act. SAFETY PROVISIONS (Section 34)

In December 1960 the functions of this Council relating to Adequacy of Means of Escape in Case of Fire were transferred to the Devon County Fire Authority under provision of the 1959 Act. Copies of all certificates previously issued and any outstanding relevant matters were forwarded to that Department.

During the year Certificates were issued in respect of 3 Factories after consultation with the Chief Fire Protection Officer.

Part VIII of the Act. OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of outworkers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome Premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel— Making, Etc.	91	—	—	—	—	—

RAINFALL

The Borough Surveyor kindly supplied the following particulars of the rainfall recorded at Gammaton and Jennetts for the year 1960.

						<i>Gammaton</i>	<i>Jennetts</i>
January	..	..	..	..	..	4.13	4.00
February	..	..	..	..	..	3.35	3.43
March	..	..	..	..	..	1.85	1.58
April	..	..	..	..	..	3.19	3.14
May	..	..	..	..	..	1.62	1.41
June	..	..	..	..	..	1.05	1.32
July	..	..	..	..	..	4.79	4.90
August	..	..	..	..	..	4.67	4.92
September	..	..	..	..	..	5.51	4.96
October	..	..	..	..	..	7.88	6.96
November	..	..	..	..	..	6.61	7.01
December	..	..	..	..	..	6.13	6.80
						50.78	50.43
						Inches	Inches

Water Supply

1. Public Supplies

A satisfactory supply of water continued to be supplied by the Council from their two sources, namely Jennetts Reservoir and Gammaton Reservoir supplemented in the former case by water from the Yeo-Duntz stream pumped from Edge Mill to the reservoir and in the latter by water purchased in bulk from the North Devon Water Board and piped to the clear water tank at Gammaton. Raw waters were treated by filtration and all waters were chlorinated before passing into circulation ; generally speaking the quality of the water has been satisfactory and it was not necessary to curtail supplies during the year. The Water Department's detection of leaks continues, but despite their ever-watchful eye, rate of consumption increased.

No major works of extension or improvement were undertaken but arrangements were still being considered to improve the means of storage and chlorination of the water at the Gammaton Reservoir.

Mains extension in the adjoining rural area carried out by the North Devon Water Board made it possible for this council to provide a piped supply to a group of cottages in the Whitehall area.

Twenty-two samples of water were taken from various points on the Jennetts supply and sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Exeter for bacteriological examination. All twenty-two samples were Class 1 of the Ministry of Health's classification for piped supplies.

Sixteen samples of water were taken from various points on the Gammaton supply and sent for bacteriological examination. One sample fell below the standard and fifteen samples were Class 1 of the Ministry of Health's classification for piped supplies.

2. Private Supplies

Two samples of water were taken from one well at a private house. One of these was unsatisfactory and the other satisfactory. Further action is intended in this case.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

No extensions or modifications to the Town's Sewerage System have been undertaken during the year.

The worst flooding ever recorded occurred during December in the Chanters Lane area due to surcharging of that part of the sewerage system and to inadequate provision for surface drainage. As a result consultations with appropriate Authorities were commenced with the view to securing all necessary improvements.

INSECT PESTS

Very little trouble was experienced from infestations.

Two houses were treated for Wasps.

The surface of the Refuse Tip was treated with " Tip Dressing " as preventative measure against the breeding of flies.

RODENT CONTROL

The annual testing and treatment of Sewers was undertaken and it was again found that the Sewers were for the most part comparatively free from infestation.

The Refuse Tip was treated at intervals by pre-baiting and poisoned baits to exterminate rats and considerable success attended these efforts. By " considerable success " is meant that very large numbers of rats were killed and this can be no cause for satisfaction. That rats continue to thrive in large numbers on the tip reflects only discredit on the Council. I have referred to this situation on previous occasions and must continue to urge the introduction of better control of tipping aided by mechanical equipment for layering and covering the rubbish.

Inspection of premises in the area continued and infestations found were treated by the Council's Rodent Operator. No charge was made for work done by the Council in respect of domestic premises.

Three-hundred and three dwelling houses and eighty-nine business premises were visited and treatment was carried out on eighteen dwelling houses for rats or mice.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

As mentioned earlier in this report to secure improvement an extension at the Slaughterhouse pressed on. The throughput of meat remained high and the requirements of butchers, not only in the town but in neighbouring districts and areas as far afield as Ilfracombe, Barnstaple, Okehampton and Exeter and those of wholesale markets in London continued to be satisfactorily met. Provision continued to be made also for individual butchers to have their livestock slaughtered.

28,171 animals were slaughtered and dressed at the Abattoir, and of these 60 Bullocks, 40 Calves, 412 Sheep and 213 Pigs were sent to the Abattoir for emergency slaughter

In addition to the above, there were brought to the Abattoir the " dressed " carcasses of 2 Bullocks, 5 Sheep and 3 Pigs.

The incidence of *Cysticercus Bovis* (the embryo form of tapeworm infesting man) rose considerably being an increase of 40 per cent. on the percentage of animals affected in 1959. Although the throughput of cattle was the heaviest of any of the past 9 years the increase of 23 per cent. over 1959 does not correspond or compare with the increase in number of *C. Bovis* carcasses detected. The treatment by refrigeration of carcasses affected before being consumed gives rise to considerable economic loss through depreciation of the meat. It is a great pity that some means of tracing the sources of infestation is not available.

The following table shows the incidence of infestation detected in animals slaughtered in this area since 1952.

Year	Throughput of Cattle	Carcasses affected with <i>C. Bovis</i>	% of throughput affected with <i>C. Bovis</i>
1952	1655	81 (part year)	4.89
1953	1886	96	5.09
1954	2270	89	3.90
1955	2677	66 (+ 1 Generalised)	2.47
1956	3118	94 (+ 1 Generalised)	3.01
1957	3466	117 (+ 1 Generalised)	3.37
1958	3201	105 (+ 1 Generalised)	3.28
1959	3219	110	3.42
1960	3970	180	4.53

In my report for 1959 I referred to an outbreak of Trichiniasis in the district the second in a space of two years. Early in the year under review a survey was commenced with the co-operation of the Public Health Laboratory Service. It was intended that samples of flesh from every pig, sow or boar slaughtered at the Abattoir, over a period, should be sent for microscopic examination but after 1,038 specimens had been examined with negative results a review of the situation was made. Discussion was held with the Director of the Laboratory and the views of other eminent Veterinarians and Parasitologists was obtained. The opinion was then formed that although routine microscopic examination of pig-flesh is widely practised abroad where incidence is very high and infestation heavy, little purpose would be served in continuing our own survey.

During the course of my enquiries I learned that in the past 20 years 5 incidents only had been reported in this country.

The “dressed” carcasses were of animals that had been slaughtered and “dressed” at farms as the animals, because of injury or some other emergency, had been unable to travel to the Abattoir.

STUNNING. In compliance with statutory requirements, all animals that are killed in the slaughterhouse are rendered insensible to pain by means of a mechanically operated instrument.

The following Tables give a summary of the work carried out :—

Table A. Gives details of the animals killed and the number of carcasses or organs condemned, also showing percentages of the carcasses affected, differentiating between

1—All diseases except Tuberculosis.

2—Tuberculosis only.

3—Cysticercosis.

Table B. Gives the weight of Meat and Offal condemned and the causes of condemnation.

Table C. Shows the amount of “Other Foodstuffs” condemned and reasons for condemnation.

TABLE A
CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	3382	586	383	16759	7061	—
Dressed Carcases....	2	—	—	5	3	—
Number inspected	3384	586	383	16764	7064	—
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci						
Whole carcases con- demned....	5	51	58	224	37	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1946	436	3	1933	812	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysti- cerci	57.65	83.11	15.92	12.87	12.02	—
Tuberculosis only.						
Whole carcases con- demned....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	8	2	—	—	113	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.24	0.34	—	—	1.59	—
Cysticercosis.						
Carcases of which some part or or- gan was con- demned	164	16	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by re- frigeration	164	*14	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of num- bers inspected affected with Cystic-Bovis	4.85	2.73				

* The two carcases not submitted to treatment by refrigeration were condemned for other reasons and are included elsewhere.

TABLE

SUMMARY OF MEAT CONDEMNATION WITH

Food Stuffs Condemned	Cause of Condemnation	Whole Carcases
Beef	Tuberculosis	—
Beef Parts	Do.	—
Beef Offal	Do.	—
Beef	Other Causes	56
Beef Parts	Do.	—
Beef Offal	Do.	—
Veal	Other Causes	58
Veal Parts	Do.	—
Veal Offal	Do.	—
Pork Parts	Tuberculosis	—
Pork Offal	Do.	—
Pork	Other Causes	37
Pork Parts	Do.	—
Pork Offal	Do.	—
Mutton	Oedema	67
Do.	Do.	—
Do.	Emaciation	57
Do.	Septic Metritis	24
Do.	Arthritis	17
Do.	Do.	—
Do.	Ill-bled	14
Do.	Injuries	13
Do.	Do.	—
Do.	Pleurisy	6
Do.	Do.	—
Do.	Pyæmia	6
Do.	Septic Pneumonia	5
Do.	Septicaemia	4
Do.	Anaemia	4
Do.	Abcessed	2
Do.	Do.	—
Do.	Moribund	2
Do.	Decomposition	1
Do.	Deformity	1
Do.	Do.	—
Do.	Multiple Tumours	1
Mutton Offal	Distoma Hepaticum- Cysts and Congestion	—

B

CAUSE OF CONDEMNATION AND WEIGHT

Part Carcases	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
—	—	—	—	—				
2	—	—	2	0				
8	—	2	2	25				
—	11	6	1	14				
20	—	14	1	23				
2362	17	6	3	0	29	10	3	6
—	1	10	0	22				
2	—	—	—	23				
1	—	—	—	2	1	10	1	19
112	—	11	0	21				
1	—	—	—	9				
—	1	6	1	9				
31	—	6	3	15				
781	1	5	2	15	3	10	0	13
—	1	11	0	2				
3	—	—	1	5				
—	1	—	—	18				
—	—	15	2	12				
—	—	7	2	5				
6	—	—	1	22				
—	—	8	3	26				
—	—	7	3	7				
20	—	1	1	5				
—	—	4	3	8				
6	—	1	1	22				
—	—	3	3	5				
—	—	3	0	2				
—	—	2	2	1				
—	—	2	0	7				
—	—	1	0	5				
6	—	—	1	7				
—	—	1	1	6				
—	—	—	1	20				
—	—	—	1	7				
1	—	—	—	23				
—	—	—	2	13				
1891	1	19	3	25	7	15	0	1
					42	6	1	11

TABLE C

Foodstuffs Condemned	Cause of Condemnation	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	ozs.
164 Tins of Meat	Tins blown or decomposition	—	5	0	26	7 $\frac{3}{4}$
122 Tins of Vegetables	Do.	—	1	0	26	0
33 Tins of Soup	Do.	—	—	1	0	1
22 Tins of Fish	Do.	—	—	—	17	8
3 Boxes of Fish	Decomposition	—	—	1	8	8
1 Carton of Sausages	Do.	—	—	—	11	8
396 Tins of Fruit	Tins damaged or blown	—	4	3	5	11
48 Tins of Milk	Do.	—	—	1	15	0
6 Tins of Milk Pudding	Do.	—	—	—	5	13
4 Tins of Cream	Do.	—	—	—	1	4
2 Tins of Marmalade	Do.	—	—	—	4	0
27 Tins of Tomatoes	Do.	—	—	—	21	3
1 Tin of Tomato Paste	Do.	—	—	—	9	15
6 Bottles of Marmalade	Mouldy	—	—	—	5	4
9 Tins of Instant Coffee	Solidified	—	—	—	1	2
5 Packets of Breakfast Flakes	Stale	—	—	—	1	14
72 Packets of Blancmange		—	—	—		
Powder		—	—	—	2	4
2 Cartons of Sugared Almonds	Contaminated by Disinfectant	—	—	—		
1 Box of Tripe	Cartons broken and contents damaged	—	—	—	14	0
	Dirty	—	—	1	22	0
Total		—	13	2	3	6 $\frac{3}{4}$

(a) The number of food premises in this area, by type of business is :—

Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Butchers Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
Cafes and Restaurants including Fish Saloons	..						23
Confectioners	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
Fish and Chip Shop	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Fishmongers	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Greengrocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Grocers and Provision Dealers	..	..	..	..	..	..	44
Market	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

(b) 10 Premises are registered for the manufacture or storage of preserved foods ;

49 premises are registered for the storage and sale of ice cream, one being a wholesale store supplying other retailers.

In addition there is one registered manufacturer of ice cream using the cold mix method of manufacture.

(c) Condemned food is disposed of as follows :—

(i) tinned foods and small quantities of provisions are taken by the Council's cleansing department and buried at the bottom of the refuse tip ;

(ii) condemned meat from butchers shops is taken to the slaughterhouse where it is collected together with condemnations from the Slaughterhouse by a firm who has given an undertaking to the Council that the material taken will be reduced to fats or converted to fertilizers.

In this connection the Meat (Staining and Sterilization) Regulations 1960 came into operation and forbids the removal from a slaughterhouse of any meat which is unfit for human consumption unless it has first been sterilized. Some exceptions are made which cover, inter alia, removal of unfit meat by a processor (as is arranged in this area).

At the close of the year I was not happy about the effect of these exceptions as applied to the abattoir and the position continued to be closely watched.

(d) Food Hygiene Regulations 1955-1956.

84 visits of inspection were made to food premises, van and stalls.

Improvements were secured in a number of instances.

(e) Samples

Samples of Ice Cream were taken during the year for bacteriological examination with the following results :—

Producer	Grade I	Grade II	Grade III	Grade IV	Total
'A'	3	—	—	1	4
'B'	1	—	—	—	1
'C'	—	—	1	—	1
'D'	—	—	1	1	2

The two samples shown in Grade IV were of bulk Ice Cream and the cause of failure was found to be—in the first instance, inadequate cleansing and sterilization of machine and utensils ; in the second, inadequate heat-treatment of mix.

Advice was given in each case.

MILK SUPPLY

All milk retailed in the Borough is now either Tuberculin-Tested, Pasteurised or Sterilized.

Ten purveyors of milk are registered as distributors, one of these being a large concern which is licensed by the Food and Drugs Authority as a pasteurising establishment. This establishment, in addition to selling by retail, supplies by wholesale all but two of the remaining distributors.

Five licences to use the designation " Tuberculin Tested " and seven licences to use the designation " Pasteurised " were issued during the year. One supplementary licence in relation to the sale of pasteurised milk by a distributor from premises outside the Borough was also issued.

There are three premises registered as a dairy.

PETROLEUM LICENCES

Licences were renewed for 35 premises to permit the storage of petroleum spirit. The total quantity of petroleum spirit stored covered by these licences amounted to 41,984 gallons. A further 60 gallons was stored on premises by virtue of the provisions of The Petroleum Spirit (Motor Vehicles, etc.) Regulations 1929.

The amount of fees paid to the Council in respect of the above Licences was £23-15-0.

I wish to thank all members and officials of the Corporation and especially Dr. Carey and the Staff in my office for their help and consideration during the year.

I am,
Mr. Mayor and Councillors,
Your obedient Servant,
A. E. T. NETTING.

